

§Appl. No. 10/535,107
Amdt. dated May 7, 2009
Reply to Office Action of, November 7, 2008

In The Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 6, the fourth full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Each of the electric pumps 4a, ..., 4c is equipped with a pair of ~~intake~~ vertically extending outlet pipes or ducts 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f, and each of said electric pumps 4a, ..., 4c is also in fluid connection with a plurality of mixing or blending devices 7a, ..., 7f.

On page 6, the last full paragraph has been amended as follows:

In particular, each of said mixing devices 7a, ..., 7f is in fluid connection with the electric pumps 4a, ..., 4c by means of at least a corresponding ~~intake~~ outlet duct 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f.

On page 7, the second full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Each shell 121 is the starting point of the ~~intake~~ outlet pipes or ducts 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f, which can lead liquid food contained in the tank 2 to the corresponding mixing devices 7a, ..., 7f.

On page 7, the third full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Advantageously, said ~~intake~~ outlet ducts 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f are arranged on the vertical tangent with oppositely oriented intakes Ia-Ib, Ic-Id and Ie-If.

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The last paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 has been amended as follows:

Each of said mixing devices 7a, ..., 7f is provided on its intake, beyond with at least an intake outlet duct 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f, also with a supply duct 131a, ..., 13f.

On page 8, the fourth full paragraph has been amended as follows:

After the mixing step has taken place, each mixing device 7a, ..., 7f supplies through its own intake outlet duct 16a, ..., 16f the product to be served to the consumer.

The last paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 has been amended as follows:

As can be ~~inferred~~ seen from such Figure 2, the ~~intake~~ outlet ducts 8a and 8b have intakes Ia and Ib, respectively, that are arranged tangentially with respect to the stator of the shell 12, thus ensuring that the fluid sucked up during a sense of rotation of the impeller 11 ~~gets~~ enters into only one ~~intake~~ outlet duct 8a and 8b. The shell 12 has a vertical curved side wall 12a which is preferably circular and a closed top wall 12b.

On page 12, the first full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Obviously, the incidence angle of ~~such intake~~ the intakes ducts 8 and 8b can also be different from the one shown in Figure 2, but should anyhow be such as to preserve the feature according to which only one intake duct can be selected during a sense of rotation of the impeller 11.

On page 13, the second full paragraph has been amended as follows:

The ~~intake~~ outlet ducts 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f are for instance made of a material such as neoprene, having an inner diameter of some tens of millimeters and enabling the flow of the substances contained in the tank 2 without modifying their organoleptic properties in a temperature range between zero °C and one hundred °C.

The last paragraph bridging pages 15 and 16 has been amended as follows:

Furthermore, each shell 102 is the starting point of the ~~intake~~ outlet pipes or ducts 8a-8b, which can lead liquid food contained in the tank 2 to the corresponding mixing devices 7a, ..., 7f.

The last paragraph bridging pages 16 and 17 has been amended as follows:

Supposing that the impeller 11a of the electric pump 4a is activated in clockwise direction of rotation, the ~~intake~~ outlet duct 8a is then activated and sends the content of the tank 2 to the mixing device 7a associated to said duct.

On page 17, the first full paragraph has been amended as follows:

The rotary movement of the impeller 11a of the electric pump 4a immersed in the liquid of the tank 2 generates a vortex, which trails the liquid portions from the center of the rotation to the

walls of the box-shaped body 12, which thanks to its shape lead said liquid portions into the inlet Ia
of the outlet intake duct 8a.

On page 17, the third full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Advantageously, thanks to the possibility of reversing the direction of rotation of the electric motor 9, only one of the ~~intake~~ outlet ducts 8a-8b, 8c-8d and 8e-8f of the pumps 4a, ..., 4c is activated, with the favorable consequence that only one impeller supplies two different mixing devices.

On page 18, the last full paragraph has been amended as follows:

As is evident from the figures, the centrifugal pumps 400a and 400b are coaxial one respect to the other, so as to be both driven by the same rotation shaft 10, and are placed ~~one beside the other~~
adjacent to one another.

On page 19, the third full paragraph has been amended as follows:

Furthermore, each shell 103a and 103b has its own ~~intake~~ duct 800a and 800b, which leads the liquid substances within the tank 2 to the corresponding mixing devices 7a, ..., 7f (not shown in Figures 3-5).